Please amend the claims to read as follows:

Listing of Claims

1-2.   (Canceled).

3.   (New)   A mobile terminal apparatus with an input section where a plurality of numeric keys combining a plurality of character keys are arranged, and that displays a candidate character allocated to a pressed numeric key, the mobile terminal apparatus comprising:

a candidate character storage section that stores the candidate character;

a character selection fixing section that, when the same numeric key as a numeric key previously pressed is pressed, updates the candidate character stored in the candidate character storage section, and, when a numeric key different from the numeric key previously pressed is pressed, determines that the candidate character stored in the candidate character storage section is a fixed character;

an input character string storage section that stores the fixed character determined by the character selection fixing section;

a voice output determination section that determines whether or not a predetermined time has passed every time the numeric key is pressed;

a voice output section that outputs voice corresponding to the fixed character determined by the character selection fixing section, and, when the voice output determination section determines that the predetermined time has passed, outputs voice corresponding to the candidate character stored in the candidate character storage section; and

a display control section that displays the fixed character and the candidate character on a screen.